

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

YULIANA ESPINOZA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Yuliana Espinoza who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Yuliana Espinoza is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Yuliana Espinoza is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Yuliana Espinoza for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF HARRISON
HIGHTOWER**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Harrison Hightower's victory at the Ohio High School Athletic Association's 2008 Division II Wrestling Championships.

Harrison Hightower is a star senior at Hunting Valley University School in Strongsville, Ohio, and bested his 130 lb. weight class with a 7-2 decision. Hunting Valley University School has a strong wrestling program and a history of cultivating champions. Hightower, loved by his friends and family for his sense of humor, is now a local hero and an example of what perseverance and dedication to your sport, school and teamwork can do.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Harrison Hightower, an outstanding team member and now a State wrestling champion.

TRIBUTE TO CAMILLE "KING
DERBY" MACEDON**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to salute a cultural icon in my home community of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands,

Camille "King Derby" Macedon, who has spent much of his life in the performance and preservation of our musical art forms.

In 1957, Camille "King Derby" Macedon began singing calypso, or "kaiso" as he always reminds us, as it is a link from our African musical heritage that took root in the Caribbean over the 400 years of our people's sojourn there. Since that time he has performed for audiences large and small and is an 11-time winner of the St. Croix Calypso Crown. He has won competitions in calypso tents from St. Lucia to Canada.

King Derby is a well-known figure, as he performs with his ukulele, solo or with a quelbe band, lending his rhythm and distinctive musical styling to the songs of our lives, which are often social commentary par excellence. He has recorded several popular compositions such as "Juan Luis Jam" (1979), "Rum and Coke" (1989), and "Witey Could Wine" (1982).

In 1982, in an effort to preserve the calypso art form, King Derby founded Calypso, Inc., an organization which gives workshops in the Virgin Islands schools to students who have the talent and are interested in becoming musicians. He has taught our youth the traditional means of preserving history and telling stories with local flavor and color in order to keep our vibrant culture alive. The young people with whom he has worked over the past two decades are known as "Junior Calypsonians" and perform every year during our Christmas Festival and Agricultural Festival.

As his day job, Camille "Derby" Macedon has worked for the Virgin Islands Department of Public Works for the past 40 years, the last 20 in the Utilities Division.

He has been married for 39 years to his wife Leona and they have seven children to include Walton, Randall, Michelle, Renee, Do-reen, Monique, Marjorie and Aubrey.

HONORING THE 85TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE LT. JOSEPH M.
WILCOX CHAPTER OF THE
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Lt. Joseph M. Wilcox Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) on the occasion of its 85th anniversary.

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized on August 9, 1890, in Washington, D.C. Thirty-three years later, on February 8, 1923, the DAR chapter in Camden, Alabama, was founded by my grandmother, Ezra Robins Bonner, with 19 charter members. The chapter will celebrate its 85th anniversary on April 3, 2008, at Camden Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

The DAR, which is headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism and preserving American history through better education for children. The society's purpose remains much the same today as when it was chartered by an Act of Congress in 1895: "To perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American independence; to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge; to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country."

Nationally, DAR members volunteer more than 60,000 hours annually to veteran patients, award over \$150,000 in scholarships and financial aid each year to students, and support schools for the underprivileged with annual donations in excess of one million dollars.

Madam Speaker, the organizing and charter members of the Lt. Joseph M. Wilcox Chapter were: Ezra Robins Bonner, Regent; Ervin McWilliams Carr, Vice Regent; Madison McWilliams Ervin, Recording Secretary; Nannie Miller Turner, Corresponding Secretary; Charlotte Tait Beck, Treasurer; Lucy D. Jones Moore, Registrar; Mary Goode Berry, Chaplain; Sarah Ervin Henderson, Historian; Grace Pugh Goode; Anna Mary Robins Crain; Katie Lee Robins; Janie Margaret Robins Wood; Narcissa McDowell Harris; Maud McWilliams; Amelie Ervin Hixon; Henrietta Irby; Mary Bibb Irby; Miriam Peryman Primm; and Mabel Stokes. May all of these ladies—and their proud descendants—know that their work throughout the years has left a lasting mark on the people of Wilcox County, Alabama.

It is indeed my sincere hope that the Lt. Joseph M. Wilcox Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will continue its vital service for another 85 years. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Camden chapter, along with all of the other DAR chapters around the country, for their patriotism and love of country, as well as for their dedication and hard work. We wish them all the best at this historic celebration.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
ARRIANNA SCHROCK FOR WIN-
NING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV
STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPION-
SHIP**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Arrianna Schrock showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Arrianna Schrock was a supportive team player; and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Whereas, Arrianna Schrock always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Arrianna Schrock on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING HAMILTON HORNETS
GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Hamilton Hornets Girls High School Basketball team on defeating the Westran Hornets by a score of 46–39, to win the Class 2A girls' basketball state championship. The Hornets finished their incredible season by posting an unblemished record of 32–0 this season in Class 2A girls' basketball. This team is the second team in the school's history to have an undefeated season.

The Hornets consist of 15 remarkable young women, including Jordan Esry, Lacy Jones, Micah Brown, Taryn Bruce, Ashley Flook, Eileen Greenwood, Shelby Dickey, Carissa Conger, Brooke Flook, Lindsay Vollmer, Katie Jones, Emily Schieber, Angie Dalton, Katie Rasmussen and Kelsey Schieber.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of the team, including Head Coach David Prather, who was assisted by Christy Prather and Sara Lasher. I also want to acknowledge the work of school administrators, Superintendent Steve Yost, Principal Tim Schieber, and Athletic Director Troy Ford, as additional keys to success.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of the Hamilton Hornets Girls High School Basketball team on their perfect season and state championship. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress.

TAYLOR PLATT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Taylor Platt who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Taylor Platt is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Taylor Platt is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Taylor Platt for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his high school career to his college career and future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAROL
KIENER

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Carol Kiener, a resident of the First District, who passed away on March 24th of this year.

Mrs. Kiener was a pillar of her community and cornerstone of her family. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time.

Mrs. Kiener spent more than thirty years in the field of education. She loved life and shared that with the children she taught. As a passionate volunteer, Mrs. Kiener taught adult GED classes in her spare time.

Outside of teaching, Mrs. Kiener volunteered her time with the Washington County Historical Society, the Girl Scouts of America, and the March of Dimes. She also was an active member of the Washington County Republican Women and was a member of the B'nai Shalom Congregation in Bristol.

Mrs. Kiener was well respected by her students, colleagues, and parents as an admired educator. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Carol Kiener, a loving wife, servant in her community, and a compassionate educator, whose commitment and unwavering determination will be greatly missed throughout East Tennessee.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE ASSASSINA-
TION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. is a national hero. He embodied the tenacious spirit and compassionate understanding of the American ideal. The power of his words has moved millions to live with hope in their hearts and welcome in their embrace.

Dr. King fought for racial equality and desegregation with nonviolent protest. Peace, he taught us, is our most powerful weapon. He helped communities begin to heal the wounds of hatred and indignity by replacing them with cooperation and tolerance. The mark he left on our society is indelible. When an assassin took him from us on that April day in 1968, Americans mourned a terrible loss. Sooner than expected, we had to enact the lessons he taught us without his guidance to show us the way. But his ink was already imprinted on our moral fiber, and our country continued his fight to end discrimination and segregation.

Madam Speaker, let us, as an American community, pause today to remember the legacy Dr. King left for each of us to carry—to dream, to love, and to accept.

THE GOALS, IDEALS, AND HIS-
TORY OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1021, honoring the goals, ideals, and history of National Women's History Month, which recognizes the women and organizations in the United States, past and present, who have fought for and continue to promote women's rights and history. This resolution will ensure that the legacy of gender equality continues and that the struggles of those who came before us and fought for equality are not forgotten.

The revolutionary ideas of equality on which our Nation was built took a long time to be extended to the whole population. The abolition movement of the mid-1800s fought for the equal treatment of men regardless of race and brought together many female activists, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. These women went on to host the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, where many women gathered in a large public forum to discuss women's rights and expressed themselves through a Declaration of Sentiments, which was based on our Nation's founding document.

Although over 70 years passed between this momentous gathering and the passage and ratification of the 19th amendment, the work and dedication of women pushing for the right to vote and equal treatment under the law is a lasting legacy. We are reminded daily of the successes of the women's suffrage movement as we walk through the United States Capitol Rotunda and pass the portrait monument to Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony.

Without the diligent work and dedication of those women who strove for equal representation in Government, we would not have been able to have you, Ms. PELOSI, serve as the first female Speaker of our House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to vote for this important resolution that will give due honor and respect to the women of America past and present with the celebration of National Women's History Month.

HONORING PFC PATRICK J.
MILLER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, Patrick J. Miller of New Port Richey, Florida, was killed in Iraq over the weekend defending the freedom and liberties of those unable to defend themselves.

Private First Class Miller, also known as P.J., was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division, stationed in Fort Riley, Kansas. He was deployed in Iraq since September 2007 and was fatally wounded when his unit came up against an IED attack and small arms fire during combat operations in Baghdad.

Although I did not have the privilege of knowing this courageous young man, by all accounts he was someone who lived every day with the same honor and integrity that he brought to the service of his country.

Prior to joining the Army, P.J. graduated from Mitchell High School in New Port Richey. While there, he excelled both in academics and athletics. These traits would serve him well later in life in both college and as a soldier in the U.S. Army. P.J. eventually earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of South Florida and aspired to one day further his education in graduate school.

Private First Class Miller's life was one of courage, perseverance and determination. He gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect us and the country he loved. This is a debt that can never be repaid to his family and loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of P.J. and grieve for his family. May God bless them and comfort them in this time of great loss. May God also bless this great country for which Private First Class Miller so nobly fought and died. We shall never forget him.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATALIA,
TEXAS AND THE 20TH ANNUAL
BLUEBONNET FESTIVAL

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of Natalia, Texas and the 20th Annual Bluebonnet Festival, to be held on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The Bluebonnet Festival has grown into a homecoming for former residents and others who wish to celebrate the incorporation of Natalia, Texas.

Natalia was founded in 1912 by Dr. Frederick Stark Pearson who named the town in honor of his daughter, Natalia Pearson Nicholson. Dr. Pearson was the engineer, designer and builder of the Medina Dam, and Natalia was established as the headquarters for the irrigation district. Destined to be the "Queen City of the Southwest," Natalia was quickly built with macadamized streets, electric power and water works. Today Natalia continues to be home to the seat of the irrigation district, now known as the Bexar, Medina, Atascosa Water District (BMA). BMA owns and operates Medina Dam, Medina Lake and the entire canal system, furnishing water for 35,000 acres of land year-round for vegetable crops, grain and hay.

Though established by Dr. Pearson, Natalia was not incorporated as a city until March 2, 1968. In January of that year, a group of 50 citizens petitioned Medina County to incorporate as a municipality using a City Council form of government. A vote was held on the 2nd of March and by a tally of 116 to 50, Natalia, Texas was incorporated. Just a few weeks later the first elections for Mayor, Alder-

man and City Marshall were held. During the 40 years of the City of Natalia's existence, the goal of its elected officials has always been to offer a better quality of life for its citizens. Natalia continues to retain its small-town charm while also constantly preparing for the future.

There is perhaps no better way to celebrate Natalia's anniversary than with the Texas Bluebonnets. The flower blooms in early spring across fields and roadsides in central and south Texas. Aptly named for its vibrant color and shape, the Bluebonnet's petal is often said to resemble a woman's sunbonnet. Though especially prevalent in towns like Natalia, the Bluebonnet has come to symbolize the entire State of Texas and it was chosen as its state flower in 1901. The annual Bluebonnet Festival celebrates not only the anniversary of Natalia, but also the wild beauty that we have come to associate with the Bluebonnet and the untamed landscape of West Texas.

As they celebrate 40 years of city incorporation, I congratulate all current and past residents of Natalia, Texas for working to achieve the dream of Dr. Pearson of being the "Queen City of the Southwest."

CHRISTINE SHEHAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Christine Shehan who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Christine Shehan is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Christine Shehan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Christine Shehan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT E.
DOGGETT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Robert E. Doggett, and to honor a life spent in service to his country, his community, and his family.

As a young man, Mr. DOGGETT served our country bravely during World War II, earning a Purple Heart of Honor for his service in the first African-American army combat unit in the South Pacific Theatre. After returning stateside

from his service, he followed his parents to Cleveland to put down roots in Northeast Ohio in the late 1940's. An artist at heart and by trade, he first utilized his artistic talents by designing calendars for local businesses. He later began work with the City planning commission as a draftsman in 1951, work which would mark the beginning of a career-long commitment to the City of Cleveland and the residents of Northeast Ohio. During his twenty years at the City planning commission, he became the city's first African-American senior planner. His integrity and work ethic carried him up the ranks quickly when in 1972, Mayor Ralph Perk appointed Mr. Doggett as the Cleveland director of the federal community redevelopment Model Cities Initiative, a program dedicated to rebuild Cleveland's East Side. To top off his career of civic service, Robert is responsible for the architectural designs of more than thirty churches, office buildings and restaurants.

Recognized for his talents as a great abstract and landscape artist by his friends and family, he was also a known jazz aficionado and has met Jazz greats Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton who both performed regularly in the Cleveland area. Mr. Doggett is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Georgia; his children Lisa, Enid and Steven; and one granddaughter. He will be affectionately remembered by his family and friends for his compassion, humor, intelligence and artistic talents.

Madam speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Robert E. Doggett, and to honor his commitment to his country, community, and family. May his exemplary life serve as an example for us all to follow.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RHUDEL A.
GEORGE

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize a man from my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, who is being celebrated as a "selfless humanitarian." Mr. Rhudel A. George is well known in our community as a tireless government worker, an advocate for the small businessman, a teacher and a political organizer. As a friend and supporter that I can always count on, Rhudel is exemplary. We are all encouraged by his work as president of Concerned Virgin Islanders, an advocacy group that is determined to both preserve and invigorate the cultural touchstones that make the Virgin Islands special.

He grew up in the Down Street area of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas and graduated in 1956 from the Charlotte Amalie High School (CAMS). He relocated to New York City where he joined the army in 1957 and served honorably for two years, leaving with a rank of Specialist 4th Class. Upon returning to the territory in 1959, he worked in both the private and public sector, while at the same time pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management at the University of the Virgin Islands in 1975. In 1975, he began to work for the V.I. Small Business Development Agency, first as a Field Investigator, and later as a Loan Officer. He was appointed Deputy Director of the

Agency by Governor Alexander Farrelly and rose to the position of Director, where he served until his retirement in 1995. In addition, Rhudel George served as a part-time instructor of business management and accounting at the CAHS Adult Continuing Education Program from 1981 through 1990. He also taught Business Management at the University of the Virgin Islands in 1991. He also served as a panelist with the U.S. Small Business Administration, conducting small business seminars and workshops in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands, and St. Martin for over 10 years.

Mr. Rhudel George received several prestigious awards for his work, to include being named the Small Business Advocate of the Year from the U.S. Small Business Administration 1990/1991 and a Certificate of Commendation for Service beyond the call of duty after Hurricane Hugo in 1989. He also served his community on various boards and commissions, lending his financial and business management expertise as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Virgin Islands Port Authority, the Public Employees Relations Board, the Board of Land Use Appeals, the V.I. Small Business Development Agency's Board, the U.S. Small Business Administration Advisory Council for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Rhudel George is currently the President of Concerned Native Virgin Islanders, Inc., an organization that has awarded 15 scholarship awards to deserving high school graduates. Mr. Rhudel George is an extraordinary community minded individual who has lent his expertise when needed. He has been married for 43 years to Lucia Cid-George and has two daughters, Semele and Sionne.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM DICKINSON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the memory of former Alabama Congressman William "Bill" Dickinson and his lifetime of dedication to the people of Alabama and the United States. I was deeply saddened to learn of his passing. Our Nation lost a wonderful friend and an individual who made countless contributions toward the betterment of America.

A native of Opelika, Alabama, Bill enlisted in the Navy upon graduation from high school. He served from 1943 until 1946 before joining the Air Force Reserves. He graduated from the University of Alabama Law School in 1950 and was admitted to the bar that same year. He returned to his hometown of Opelika and practiced law there until 1952 when he became an Opelika city judge. Two years later, he became judge of Lee County Court of Common Pleas and of the Juvenile Court before becoming a judge on the Fifth Judicial Circuit of Alabama in 1958. In 1962, Bill was named assistant vice president of the Southern Railway System and moved to Montgomery.

A lifelong conservative Democrat, Bill changed parties in 1964 and ran as a Republican to the U.S. House of Representatives for

Alabama's Second District. In so doing, he was part of the Barry Goldwater sweep in Alabama that propelled five Republican congressional candidates to victory in what had previously been solid Democratic country.

Bill Dickinson went on to serve 13 consecutive terms in Congress and was a leading advocate for a strong national defense. He served as ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, and from this position, he was a staunch supporter of increased military funding and halting the spread of communism throughout the world. He was also a fierce protector of military bases vital to Alabama's economy.

Madam Speaker, we are privileged to have known such a passionate and loyal individual, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering this dedicated public servant. Congressman Dickinson will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Barbara; their four children, Christopher Dickinson, Michael Dickinson, Tara Dickinson Sherer, and William Dickinson, Jr.; and their five grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KATELYN STUCKEY FOR WIN- NING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPION- SHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Katelyn Stuckey always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Katelyn Stuckey on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING RODNEY ALEXANDER AMES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Rodney Alexander Ames, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 134, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Rodney has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Rodney has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Rodney Alexander Ames for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ATSEDU KIDANE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Atsedu Kidane who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Atsedu Kidane is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Atsedu Kidane is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Atsedu Kidane for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

LOSS OF GEORGE LACKMAN

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to herald the lifetime achievements of Tampanian George Lackman. Mr. Lackman was a jack of all trades. He made contributions to our community ranging from shipbuilding to banking to philanthropy.

Mr. Lackman was born in Palmetto Beach in 1931. He spent most of his career as a shipbuilder. He worked his way up the ranks from a mechanic's assistant to vice president at Tampa Ship Repair and Dry Dock, and he oversaw construction of Tampa's legendary pirate ship, the Jose Gasparilla. For 35 years he served as the ship's captain during Tampa's annual pirate invasion and festival, "Gasparilla." He also built submarines and stern-wheelers and refurbished a steam locomotive for the opening of the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World in 1971.

Working with bass pro Doug Hannon, Mr. Lackman invented an electric boat propeller that prevents seaweed from becoming entangled in the blades. Many anglers swear by this invention, and Mr. Lackman would joke that it raised enough money to put his kids, son Peter and daughter Nancy, through college.

In a new career endeavor, Mr. Lackman founded Citrus Park Bank, where he served as president. Later, he started the private banking program for First Union Bank in

Tampa. He retired from First Union as vice president of corporate development. He also served as president of Nutri-Sol Chemical Company, Marine Insulation Company, Corban Industries, and Acetogen Gas Company of Florida.

In his philanthropic efforts, Mr. Lackman started Genesis Clinic to provide prenatal care to mothers who were unable to afford proper health care. Infant mortality dropped in Tampa as a result of the services provided at Genesis. He also served as chairman of the Hillsborough County Hospital Board for two terms and helped save Tampa General Hospital when it faced the possibility of closing its doors.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Lackman's death on March 29 marked a great loss to his wife Patricia, to Peter and Nancy, to his grandchildren George III, Caroline, and Grace, and to the entire Tampa Bay area. His unique contributions to our community and his common sense and intelligence will not soon be forgotten.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 1061, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and encouraging people of the United States to pause and remember the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King dedicated his life to fighting for equality for all men and women, regardless of race, creed or class. He was a courageous activist who worked tirelessly to give a voice to Americans whose voices had been silenced.

We live in a society that has undergone infinite change because of this courageous man and his relentless pursuit of a better America. Yet while we have made immense progress in some areas, we must not turn a blind eye to the fact that the work that Dr. King started is not yet complete. Today the responsibility rests on our shoulders to continue his efforts. We must keep working.

The American Dream means something different to everyone. And while it may mean something different to you than it does to your parents or the person sitting next to you at church, I know this: The American Dream is about being able to afford health care, and not having to decide between prescriptions and groceries. It is about being able to earn a wage that is sufficient enough to provide for your family. It is about being able to send your kids to college so they have access to more opportunities than you do.

We teach our children that Dr. King gave his life in Memphis, but we forget to tell them that he was there helping sanitation workers fight for a living wage. We honor Dr. King by name today, but I believe we honor him best by passing legislation that makes it easier for Americans to realize the dream that Dr. King fought for. Most recently, we voted to approve

the College Opportunity and Affordability of 2008, which authorizes the Federal Government's major federal student aid programs, among many other things. Our successes in these areas are made in his name and will help serve as a catalyst for even greater movements.

Dr. King's eloquence and determination forced this House to pass long overdue civil rights legislation. This House should never be forced to do the right thing again. Dr. King said: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." This House should never be silent on the issues that mattered most to Dr. King, including protecting the rights of working Americans.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH GREECE AHEAD OF THE NATO SUMMIT AND URGING A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON RESOLUTION TO THE NAME ISSUE REGARDING FYROM

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for a resolution of a 15-year impasse on a mutually agreed upon name for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as we near the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Heads of State and Government summit in Bucharest, Romania. One of the major issues considered will be the expansion of NATO and the possible extension of membership invitations to Albania, Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). Greece is the greatest supporter and promoter for the realization of the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of all countries in S.E. Europe and has contributed to that end enormous human and financial capital.

Greece has been FYROM's best friend in the Balkan neighborhood by donating over \$1 billion in aid and bolstering its fledgling market economy. While Greece wholehearted, however, cannot agree to the accession of FYROM that is wholly contrary to the principles of NATO.

According to the Membership Action Plan NATO adopted in 1999, potential members must first display a willingness "to settle international, ethnic or external territorial disputes by peaceful means, commitment to the rule of law and human rights, and democratic control of armed forces." Clearly, the FYROM has failed to meet even this first criterion. The addition of FYROM to NATO would undoubtedly enhance the Alliance but only if it displays an adherence to the rule of law. FYROM must resolve the name issue in accordance with adherence to U.S. policy and a UN-brokered agreement that calls for ending negative propaganda against Greece by the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and settling the name issue.

Madam Speaker, I hope that NATO and the international community will do the right thing by requiring FYROM to work with Greece in reaching a mutually agreed upon name resolu-

tion that comports with bilateral and international agreements. Once that is accomplished we can then and only then know that FYROM is serious about engaging in good neighborly relations.

81ST BIRTHDAY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and to celebrate what would have been the 81st birthday of Cesar Chavez by urging Congress and the President to make this day a national holiday.

Cesar Chavez grew up in migrant labor camps, into the poverty of a migrant worker's life. He became an historical figure who embodied humility and extraordinary strength in his peaceful struggle toward social justice. By dedicating his life to tirelessly championing the rights of farm laborers, along with Dolores Huerta, he helped found the United Farm Workers Union, fighting for better wages, conditions, and respect for farmworkers.

As our country faces the continuing bad news on the economy and more Americans are searching for jobs, we are reminded on the birthday of Cesar Chavez that the types of working families to whom Chavez dedicated his life will suffer the most if gas prices continue to rise, people continue to lose their homes, and job losses continue to grow.

Cesar Chavez has been an icon in my home State of Texas, where he is honored statewide on his birthday. In San Antonio, there is an annual Cesar Chavez march, which took place this past Saturday and had about 4,000 people in attendance. In San Antonio, we also have Cesar Chavez Boulevard, and in the county of Hidalgo there is a town named after Cesar Chavez, where 1,469 people live.

I hope that his legacy and memory will someday become a fundamental piece of American history so that all Americans will understand the fight that Cesar Chavez began in the fields—a fight for social justice, civil rights, and human rights that continues today.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues in urging the President and Congress to establish a national holiday by passing H. Res. 76.

ARIEL TOVAR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ariel Tovar who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ariel Tovar is a student at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ariel Tovar is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels

strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Ariel Tovar for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR THOMAS P. PERCIAK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Thomas P. Perciak, the Mayor of the City of Strongsville, Ohio. A profoundly respected and influential member of Cleveland's Polish community and a leader of greater Cleveland's civic culture, Mayor Perciak is the recipient of the Forty-Fifth annual "Good Joe" Polish Heritage Award.

Mayor Perciak, a lifelong resident of the Cleveland area, carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy for northeast Ohio, especially in the Polish community. A graduate of the David M. Myers University, he has served and continues to serve in many leadership roles. Prior to becoming Mayor of Strongsville, he held various senior positions within Fifth Third Bank, including Executive Vice President of the Northeastern Ohio region. In addition, Mayor Perciak leads the charitable gift and fundraising arm of Southwest General Hospital as Chairman of the Southwest General Community Health Foundation, a position he has held since 1996.

From his time as a student at St. Andrews Abbey—founded Benedictine High School—located in Cleveland—to his volunteer service on their Board of Trustees, Mayor Perciak has represented the Benedictine Order of Cleveland with pride and distinction. His religious faith also compels him to dedicate his time and talent toward serving on the Board of Financial Advisors for the Diocese of Cleveland, as well as on the Finance Committee of St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

Mayor Perciak has been the recipient of many honors and awards, including induction into the Benedictine High School Hall of Honors and Companions on the Journey Awards of outstanding service and generosity. In addition, in the summer of 2007, the Southwest General Residential Hospice was renamed the Thomas P. Perciak Family Residential Hospice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Mayor Thomas Perciak for his outstanding and tireless efforts as a supporter and advocate for Polish causes, as well as for his extensive and diverse service to many individuals and families who call the Cleveland area home.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING REBEKAH THOMAS FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Rebekah Thomas showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Rebekah Thomas was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Rebekah Thomas always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Rebekah Thomas on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING JOSHUA TYLER BOYDSTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua Tyler Boydston, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Joshua has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joshua Tyler Boydston for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUANITA PERRY

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mrs. Juanita Perry, a longtime resident of the First District, who passed away on March 24th of this year.

Mrs. Perry was a leader in the First District where she has touched many lives through her countless hours of dedication to her community. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family as they mourn her loss.

Juanita loved to help anyone in need. She spent sixty-two years volunteering at Mountain Home Veterans Affairs Medical Center where she carried the name of "Little Sweetheart of Mountain Home."

Juanita was also a lifetime member at Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Post 2108 and Military Order of the Purple Heart Post 224. Her time spent with the Tennessee Federation of Republican Women's Club was honorable and she received a Certificate of Award from the National Federation of Republican Women in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring the life of Juanita Perry, a loving family member whose commitment and unwavering support to East Tennessee will be greatly missed.

RECOGNIZING WORLD AUTISM DAY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World Autism Day in an effort to increase awareness about one of the most common mental disorders afflicting our country today. Autism is becoming an increasingly common disorder; more and more children in America and throughout the world are born with it every day. The first step toward treating this incurable condition is recognition. Therefore, I rise today in support of World Autism Day and to help shed light on this growing and very serious problem.

The statistics concerning autism are, to say the least, alarming. One in 150 children born today is diagnosed with autism. One in 94 newborn boys is now autistic. In fact, today alone there will be approximately 67 new cases of autism diagnosed. That translates to a new diagnosis every 20 minutes. These are incredibly alarming numbers and we must recognize that this disorder is increasingly common and also that, while there is no cure, the quicker we identify what the problem is, the quicker we can act. We may not yet be able to cure autism, but with a strong commitment from the Federal Government we can create better lives for the growing number of children that are afflicted with this condition.

There is no medical way to detect autism in a child. We must rely on a physician's trained eye to diagnose a child as autistic, and even then we cannot cure it, we can only treat it. There are various symptoms that indicate autism that a physician must recognize. This is why awareness and education are so important.

Today, I would like to recognize the efforts of doctors, advocates and families on World Autism Day and also bring attention to the shocking frequency with which autism is diagnosed. Therefore, I rise today to recognize World Autism Day, to commend those working toward education, treatment and some day a cure and to offer my support for these efforts.

TRIBUTE TO POLICE CHIEF
ALBERT W. BELL

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pay tribute to a respected leader from southwest Colorado, Police Chief Albert W. Bell of Durango, Colorado. Chief Bell has served the community of Durango with distinction for 14 years and has now announced his retirement, effective April 5, 2008.

Chief Bell's career in law enforcement started 37 years ago as a patrolman for the Topoka Police Department. On July 1, 1999, then Colorado Governor Bill Owens appointed Chief Bell to the Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training, POST, Board. Chief Bell served that Board with distinction and in the highest traditions of the law enforcement profession.

Chief Bell is a member of the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police and has served on numerous boards that serve the interests of the citizens of Colorado. In service to his local community, Chief Bell has served as Undersheriff in the La Plata County Sheriff's Department and also served on the Community Connections Board at Hilltop House.

Chief Bell has demonstrated an outstanding level of professionalism and is recognized as a leader among law enforcement professionals in the Third Congressional District, fostering cooperative relationships amongst the Federal, State, and local law enforcement communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend Durango Police Chief Al Bell for his outstanding leadership, service, and dedication to the residents of Durango, Colorado. While we will all miss Chief Bell's service and dedication, I ask that you join me in wishing him well upon his retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2008"

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the "Government Accountability Office Act of 2008" (the Act), is intended to improve the oversight, administration, and pay adjustment functions at the Government Accountability Office, GAO.

The former Comptroller General has asserted that Federal agencies should have "modern, effective, credible, and, as appropriate, validated performance management systems in place with adequate safeguards, including reasonable transparency and appropriate accountability mechanisms, to ensure fairness and prevent politicization and abuse." Some of the safeguards recommended by the Government Accountability Office, GAO, include a performance management system that makes meaningful distinctions in individual employee performance; involves employees and stakeholders in designing the system; and achieves consistency, equity and non-discrimination.

Over the last 24 months, the subcommittee has conducted oversight, and more recently investigated, the implementation of GAO's new personnel system to determine if it meets the aforementioned criteria. The subcommittee found that it did not. In addition, based on its investigation the subcommittee concluded that, contrary to legislative intent, GAO employees who met and exceeded expectations in 2006 and 2007 did not receive the annual across-the-board increase that other GAO employees received.

The Act would restore the 2006 and 2007 annual across-the-board increase to GAO employees who met expectations but did not receive the adjustment. It would also set a "floor guarantee" that would preserve GAO's performance-based compensation system, while ensuring that GAO employees receive an annual increase in their permanent pay, provided they "meet expectations," that is at least equal to the Congressionally approved across-the-board increase.

The floor guarantee will be comprised of the annual adjustment to the GAO pay schedule plus the permanent merit pay increase received by an employee under GAO's merit pay system. At a hearing the subcommittee held on March 23, 2008, on this legislation and GAO's personnel reforms, the subcommittee learned from the Ivy Planning Group, a consulting firm hired by GAO to conduct an African American Performance Assessment Study at GAO, that there are significant differences between the ratings for African American analysts and Caucasian analysts. Therefore, the personnel reforms at GAO had a significant negative impact on African American staffers. Furthermore, a survey that was administered to GAO employees at my request, found that 81 percent of respondents thought morale in general at GAO is worse or much worse than before the reforms and a majority of the respondents felt that not having an across-the-board increase for all staff is very or somewhat unreasonable. While the subcommittee recognizes that more work needs to be done at GAO, the Act will help improve the morale at GAO and remedy the inequities that resulted from the denial of the 2006 and 2007 across-the-board adjustments.

Other provisions in the Act include creating a statutory Inspector General for GAO; permitting the Comptroller General, CG, greater flexibility to administer oaths to witnesses when auditing and settling accounts; enabling the CG to accept gifts and to make expenditures for meals and other expenses in connection with recruitment; and eliminates the statutorily imposed GS-15 pay cap to allow the CG the authority to pay employees up to the rate for Executive Level III. The Act has the support of GAO and its union, the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers.

"ALL IN A NAME," GREECE'S CONCERNS REGARDING THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA'S ACCESSION TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, later this week the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) will hold a Heads of State and Government summit in Bucharest, Romania. One of the major issues considered will be the expansion of NATO and the possible extension of membership invitations to Albania, Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). In this context, I would like to bring to the House's attention excerpts from the April 1, 2008 Op-ed in the Wall Street Journal titled "All in a Name," written by Greece's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dora Bakoyannis.

[FROM THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, APR. 1, 2008]

ALL IN A NAME

(By Dora Bakoyannis)

ATHENS.—The NATO summit comes to Southeastern Europe this week, and Greece is looking forward to it . . . As the region's oldest NATO and EU member, Greece feels a profound obligation to be constructive, supportive and practical regarding our neighbors. We wholeheartedly espouse the policy of enlargement, and I am happy to say that two members of the so-called "Adriatic Three," Croatia and Albania, are today in a position to further the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty and earn their invitation to NATO in Bucharest. However, it saddens me that we cannot so far say the same about our neighbor, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM).

For over 15 years, our two countries have been involved in United Nations-sponsored negotiations regarding FYROM's name. Greece has real and concrete concerns over the issue. What's in a name, you may ask? A great deal, I can assure you. The term "Macedonia" has always been used to delineate a wider geographical region, approximately 51% of which is part of Greece, 38% of which is in FYROM, and 9% of which is in Bulgaria.

Not only does the government in Skopje insist on being the sole claimant to the name of an entire area—the largest part of which lies outside its borders—but authorities in FYROM insist on portraying Greek Macedonia as "occupied" territory. While government leaders declare they have no designs on Greek territory, they refuse to remove such claims from textbooks, state maps and national documents . . .

And we are not alone in our quest. In the U.S. Congress, 115 members, both Republicans and Democrats, recently co-sponsored House Resolution 356, which expressed the "sense of the House of Representatives that FYROM should stop hostile activities and propaganda against Greece, and should work with the United Nations and Greece to find a mutually acceptable official name."

NATO has consistently encouraged full normalization of relations not only with aspirants themselves but with neighboring third countries not belonging to the Alliance. Greece will spare no effort in reaching a real and viable solution for the sake of peace and stability in the region. Alliances and partnerships, however, can only be fostered among countries if there is mutual trust and goodwill.

TYLER SALEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tyler Salen who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tyler Salen is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tyler Salen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tyler Salen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHINESE SPECTACULAR SHOW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Chinese Spectacular Show, a world-class troupe that showcases Chinese Classical performance to audiences worldwide and serves as a bridge between cultures.

In 2006, the Chinese Spectacular was ranked number seven on Billboard Magazine's top shows and has played in the finest theaters around the country. This year, as men and women of Asian descent celebrate the Year of the Rat together with their friends, family and neighbors in Cleveland, the Oriental Cultural Association, OCA, is bringing this great show to the State Theatre. In keeping with its mission as an organization that promotes a cultural exchange and understanding, the OCA is proud to bring this spectacular show to Cleveland. The show is a unique opportunity to showcase and bring together Cleveland's rich multicultural society and appreciation of the various rich cultures that constitute the greater Cleveland community.

The Chinese Spectacular show is the largest overseas Chinese cultural production and exemplifies the very best of classical Chinese music and dance through its lavish costumes and choreography. They have toured over 65 cities around the world just this year and are able to show a side of Chinese culture that is often not seen in the United States.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing this year's Chinese Spectacular show and celebrating Cleveland's rich multicultural community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ASHLEY WEAVER FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Ashley Weaver showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Ashley Weaver was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Ashley Weaver always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Ashley Weaver on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING ZACHARY JAMES BUCKNER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary James Buckner, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary James Buckner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXXONMOBIL'S RECKLESSNESS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, on March 24, 1989, the worst oil spill in our Nation's history occurred as the supertanker *Exxon Valdez* ran aground on Bligh Reef and dumped 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound off the scenic Alaskan coast. Five years later, a Federal jury in Anchorage awarded the fishermen, businesses, and affected communities punitive damages. However, to date, Exxon has paid none of the \$2.5 billion punitive damages awarded to these fishermen as a result of the environmental devastation caused by ExxonMobil's recklessness.

What has ExxonMobil done? While the company has paid for the value of the lost fish, it has never compensated the families for their other continuing damages including, in the words of one trial judge, the fact that "the social fabric of Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet was torn apart." There are still thousands of fishermen, food processors, and others who are awaiting justice. Tragically, this number is dwindling as many of those affected have passed away while waiting for some form of resolution that has never come. All the while, ExxonMobil employs one primary tactic: delay. I would usually not comment on litigation that is ongoing, but these delay tactics of repeatedly appealing a just verdict all the way to the Supreme Court are irresponsible and indefensible. It has now been over 19 years since one of the worst environmental disasters in our Nation's history and 14 years since the initial jury verdict.

I believe in the free market, and I believe a corporation has the right to earn profits, but they also have a responsibility to their community and their country, especially when they make an awful mistake. ExxonMobil has done the former by earning \$36 billion in 2006, a record for a single company. Now it is time for ExxonMobil to face up to its corporate responsibility, close this dark chapter in the company's history, and end this undue burden on the victims and the courts.

March 24, 2008, marked the 19th anniversary of this tragedy—but the question has now turned to: Will our Nation's highest court uphold the judgment that these victims still sadly await?

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WHMI RADIO IN HOWELL, MICHIGAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the recent accomplishments of WHMI radio in Howell, Michigan, on the occasion of the station receiving the prestigious Associated Press "General Excellence" Award.

WHMI was recognized above all other medium market radio in the State of Michigan, including Flint, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Bay City/Saginaw, Ann Arbor, and Kalamazoo/Battle Creek. To achieve the "General Excellence" Award, WHMI earned recognition for Best Newscast, Best Continuing Coverage, Best Feature Story, Best Investigative Reporting and Best Natural Sound.

Celebrating 51 years of service to the Howell and Livingston County communities, WHMI adds to its many awards for broadcast excellence and community service this new recognition. All of this comes thanks to the hard work of owners Greg and Marcia Jablonski, General Operations Manager Reed Kitteridge, News Director Jon King, and the entire WHMI team.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring WHMI for its contributions to the community. Their new milestone is truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

CONGRATULATING THE FRANKLIN
ACADEMY HUSKIES UPON WIN-
NING THE 2008 NEW YORK STATE
GIRLS CLASS A CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Franklin Academy Huskies of Malone, New York, upon winning the 2008 New York State Girls Basketball Class A Championship. I am proud to represent the Huskies, who won Franklin Academy's first team state championship in their third consecutive final four appearance.

On March 15, 2008, the Franklin Academy Huskies won the New York State Class A Championship when they defeated the Honeoye Falls-Lima Cougars 43 to 41. In that game, the Huskies persevered and came from nine points behind in the second half to take the lead with 2:20 left on a three pointer by Tournament MVP and Class A Player of the Year Alyson Johnson, who led all scorers with 17 points and also had five rebounds. All Tournament and Second Team All State selection Haley Poupore added 10 points and nine rebounds for the Huskies while teammate Kelsey Johnson contributed seven points and four rebounds to the Huskies' total and received the Tournament Sportsmanship Award.

The Franklin Academy Huskies completed the 2008 season with a record of 25 and 3. They were coached by Class A Coach of the Year Mike Wescott and assistant coaches Greg Dumas, Dave Farden, and Shelley Skelly. Other team members were Maggie Aguglia, Stephanie Edwards, Brittany Flick, Erica Johnson, Monique LaFlesh, Ashley Marshall, Brittany Marshall, Meaghan Patterson, Abby Premo, and Emily Sharlow.

Accordingly, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in extending congratulations to the Franklin Academy Huskies for winning the 2008 New York State Girls Basketball Class A Championship.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF HERMINIA DUENAS
DIERKING

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and public service of Herminia Duenas Dierking, a distinguished leader from Guam who passed away on March 24, 2008. Herminia served the people of Guam in leadership positions in our community including as a Senator in the Guam Legislature, a professor at the University of Guam, and as a cabinet officer in the Government of Guam.

Herminia Duenas Dierking, daughter of the late Maria Pangelinan Guzman and Jose Cruz Duenas, was born on August 17, 1939 in the capital village of Hagåtña. She grew up aware of the hardships endured by our people during the occupation of Guam and she later used that knowledge and compassion to work for

justice for our people as a member of the Guam War Reparations Commission.

Herminia is a fine example of how education can open doors to new opportunities. She received her high school diploma from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam and pursued college degrees from the University of Missouri at Kansas City and later from the University of Guam where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business. She continued to work toward an advanced degree from Emporia State University, Kansas and successfully obtained a Masters of Science in Business Administration.

Herminia began her professional career as an assistant professor at the University of Guam and rose to become the chairperson of the Accounting Department, serving thirteen years in the College of Business and Public Administration. Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo, my late husband, recognized her expertise in management and appointed her as the Director of the Bureau of Budget and Management Research in 1983. She was also appointed as the Chairperson of the Fiscal Policy Committee of the Government of Guam. Herminia's leadership helped to restore the fiscal health of the Government of Guam, leading to an economic recovery.

Herminia was urged by Governor Bordallo and other local leaders who recognized her leadership potential to run for a seat in the 18th Guam Legislature. She was successful in her first run for elected office and was subsequently reelected to the 19th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd Guam Legislatures. During her tenure as a Senator, she served as Chairwoman of the Committee on Ways and Means, Chairwoman of the Committee on Rules, Chairwoman of the Committee on Health, Welfare, & Ecology, and Vice Chair of the Committee on General Governmental Operations. In addition to her leadership positions in the Guam Legislature, Herminia also served on the Legislative Management Committee on the Assembly of the Legislature of the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Executive Committee of the Western Legislative Conference, and the Committee on Suggested State Legislation on the Council of State Governments. She was appointed to represent Guam in the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

Herminia contributed her time and effort to community improvement by volunteer work and service in several community organizations. She served as president of the Association of Government Accountants, the Guam Business Education Association, and the Guam Business and Professional Women's Club. She was also appointed to serve in leadership roles for the Western Business Education Association, Manukai Swim Club, Far East Swim League, Beauty World Guam, Tamuning Elementary School PTA, Guam Beauty Association, Father Duenas Memorial High School Parents Guild, American Heart Association, and Guam Memorial Board of Trustees. She was a member of the Soroptimist International, the Guam Lytico and Bodig Association and the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association.

My thoughts and prayers are with Herminia's husband, Deacon John C. Dierking, their five children, Cliff, Kurt, Steven, Anna Maria, and John Paul, their grandchildren, and the many family and friends whose lives she touched. We honor her life's work as an educator and community leader.

Most of all, she will always be remembered as a gentle woman who always had a kind word and a warm smile. She lived a full life and we are grateful for her public service. We will all miss her dearly.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KERN
COUNTY FIRE FIGHTERS UNION
IAFF LOCAL 1301 ON THE CELE-
BRATION OF THEIR 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today, to congratulate the Kern County Fire Fighters Union, Inc. IAFF Local 1301 on the celebration of their 50th anniversary.

The Kern County Fire Fighters Union dates back to 1957, when the first organizing meeting was held. Kern County Fire Fighters Union, Inc. IAFF Local 1301 was officially organized on March 24, 1958 with 44 charter members, including Organizing President Arthur A. Arvizu and First Elected President Lester Cheek.

The first Union office was a cardboard box inside an automobile trunk. IAFF Local 1301 bought their first building located at 230 Truxtun Avenue in Bakersfield, California in April of 1968. The office on Truxtun Avenue was eventually sold and the Union moved to 3615 Mt Vernon Avenue in August of 1982.

While the Union has kept pace with all phases of Kern County Fire Fighter wages, hours and working conditions, some examples of its biggest accomplishments include establishing an Educational Incentive Plan, reducing the work week from 72 hours to 56 Hours with paid holidays, and playing a major role in the signing implementation of the Joint Powers Agreement between the Kern County Fire Department and the Bakersfield City Fire Department.

In the past 50 years, their membership has grown from 44 to 529 strong while 18 presidents have played a vital role in the Union's success.

The Union continues to make every effort to work with the Board of Supervisors, department heads and staff, as well as the Chief of the Kern County Fire Department and his staff, believing that greater strides can be made with all parties working together. Members have always felt secure knowing that no matter what task lies ahead, it will be met with enthusiasm by dedicated members who believe in and live by the Union motto, "In Unity There Is Strength."

The 50th anniversary of the Kern County Fire Fighters Union, Inc. IAFF Local 1301 is a perfect opportunity to pay tribute to the men and women who risk their lives every day for the safety of our community. Often, when people are running out of buildings, away from the danger, these brave men and women are the ones running toward the flames. They are our everyday heroes and I, along with all Kern County communities, am eternally grateful for their service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
HAYGANOUSH MARKARIAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness and respect today, along with Congresswoman LYNN C. WOOLSEY, to honor Hayganoush Markarian, a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, who passed away recently at the age of 105. Hayganoush was one of the few survivors of the Armenian Genocide of the early 20th century, so it further saddens me that she died without the government of Turkey, from where she fled, or the government of the United States, where she found refuge, officially recognizing that Genocide.

Much has been said about the facts and numbers and statistics. We know that in Turkey between 1915 and 1921, 1.5 million Armenians died—80 percent of the population. But it is women like Hayganoush who put a human face on the Armenian Genocide and remind us that we are talking about actual people whose lives were lost or whose homes and families were destroyed.

Hayganoush Markarian was born on January 24, 1902, in the historic Armenian city of Kharpert, which suffered huge losses in the Armenian Genocide. She lived with her parents, older brother, and four sisters.

When the Turks came after her father and brother, both went into hiding—her brother dressed as a girl in order to safely cross dangerous areas and her father initially hid in the well at their home and later with Kurdish friends.

Her mother somehow saved the family from the deportations and massacres and re-united with her husband briefly after World War I, before he died as a result of the damp conditions in the wells he had hidden in for such long periods.

In 1923, the remainder of the family made their way to Syria, where Hayganoush married Markar Markarian in 1925. The Markarians later moved to Lebanon and eventually the United States. In both Syria and Lebanon, Hayganoush was an active member of the Armenian Relief Society, the oldest Armenian women's organization operating in the world.

Hayganoush resided in Oakland until her death in March of this year at the age of 105. She had prayed she would live to see the day when she and other victims of the Armenian Genocide would see the Genocide officially recognized both here and in Turkey.

Madam Speaker, although Hayganoush's prayer was not granted, she did see such a resolution pass the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives last fall. I am proud to be a cosponsor of that resolution, and I look forward to the day when the U.S. government officially recognizes the Genocide. Hayganoush Markarian's story will serve as a reminder to us of the sanctity of human life in Armenia and around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
HAYGANOUSH MARKARIAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness and respect today, along with Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, to honor Hayganoush Markarian, a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, who passed away recently at the age of 105. Hayganoush was one of the few survivors of the Armenian Genocide of the early 20th century, so it further saddens me that she died without the government of Turkey, from where she fled, or the government of the U.S., where she found refuge, officially recognizing that Genocide.

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ELIJAH QUINTANILLA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elijah Quintanilla who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elijah Quintanilla is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elijah Quintanilla is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Elijah Quintanilla for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JESSICA STUTZMAN FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jessica Stutzman on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING WILLIAM CROOKS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Crooks, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Crooks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures on March 31, 2008. If I were present for rollcall votes, I would have voted "yea" on each of the following bills:

Roll No. 147, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 3352, To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 148, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 2675, To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 149, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree: H. Con. Res. 302, Supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes.

HONORING ANNA ETHEL LOUISE MOORE PORTER AND CORDEN PORTER

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2008, Anna Ethel Louise Moore Porter will celebrate her 100th birthday. I would like to not only recognize this incredible milestone in Mrs. Porter's life, but also reflect upon all that she and her late husband, Corden Porter, have accomplished in their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have given so much to the Jeffersonville community, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

The young Porter couple moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana, in 1928. Corden Porter's daughter described his life as "spent trying to overcome poverty and racial segregation." And, Mrs. Porter was always at his side, always supporting this mission.

Mr. Porter had a distinguished career as a long-time educator at Taylor High School in Jeffersonville. First a teacher, then a principal, Mr. Porter worked at Taylor High School from 1928–1952. Because of his position at the high school and well-regarded intellect, most of the Porter's friends and neighbors referred to him as "Doc Porter." He was an unparalleled leader in the African-American community of Jeffersonville. Unfortunately, his life was cut much too short when he passed away in 1963.

Mrs. Porter was also a presence at Taylor High School, often serving as a substitute teacher. When not teaching, Mrs. Porter was known to collect donations for the local Red

Cross and give piano lessons. She and her husband were very active in their church—Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. Mrs. Porter has been awarded two Guiding Light Awards as an outstanding person in the Jeffersonville African-American community. What she most often speaks about, however, is her family. The Porters have five children, 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

Happy birthday Mrs. Porter and thank you for giving so much back to the Southern Indiana community during your 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO THIRD DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNSEL

SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall I invited high school students living in the Third Congressional District to join the Congressional Youth Advisory Counsel. The goal of the CYAC is to foster civic involvement and to encourage students to unleash their passions for America. Each meeting, they exceed my expectations and make me hopeful for the future.

The students who serve on the CYAC represent the best and the brightest in North Texas. Students are leaders, athletes, musicians, volunteers, and activists. They are the voice of their generation to Congress. They make a difference at each meeting and I'm proud of them.

For this year's community project, students interviewed a veteran and wrote an essay. The summary of each submitted essay follows.

It is my hope that some day the Congressional Youth Advisory Council will be associated with excellence and one of our highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas. I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

To the members of the 2007–2008 Congressional Youth Advisory Council . . . Thank you. I salute you; God Bless You and God Bless America.

A twenty-six year old when the Korean War began, Seung Sik Kim was already a member of the armed forces. He had received education at the PoByungGamBoo Artillery School, from which he graduated as Class President. When the Korean War began, Kim was a Second Lieutenant who served in the field artillery service branch, and he was eventually promoted to the rank of Captain. His instructors consisted of General Kim Suk Won, Commander Shin In Gyoon, and Commander Kim Kae Won, who would later become a Secretary on the South Korean President's Cabinet. Kim and his unit played major roles in the incident at Ohdae Mountain in North Korea, where he starved for three days, and in the fight against the Chinese in the city Dukchun of the North Korean state Pyongnamdo. Although his unit was pushed back at first, he and his fel-

low soldiers participated actively in strategically combating the North Koreans. This experience of interviewing a veteran and collecting and preserving his story has opened my eyes to and greatly increased my respect for the honorary members of our community who served for a cause and acted for remoter ends, for higher good, and for interests other than their own.—Susie Choi

The purpose of the Veterans History Project is to collect and archive the personal recollections of U.S. military veterans, which is a way of honoring their service and sharing their stories with current and future generations. Veterans of the United States military have demonstrated tremendous courage and heroism and made untold sacrifices in the service of our country to preserve freedom. Each veteran has a story that is unique, and of historical significance. The legacy of these men and women must be preserved. As I interviewed U.S. Army veteran: Specialist Joe White, I realized that veteran's stories must be told and preserved. I have gained the knowledge that the history of our veterans is vanishing rapidly. I have learnt the more eyes and ears we have around our country meeting with veterans, the more of this priceless information we are going to save. Sharing stories and gathering reminiscences had an immediate impact on me and the interviewee. Specialist White took away a sense of pride in his contribution to preserving freedom around the world. His accomplishments while in the U.S. Army will forever be archived in the annals of U.S. history. Like most military veterans, Specialist White may have not been in combat, won a battle or firefight; but his contribution to freedom throughout the world has been immeasurable and lasting.—Derek Guckes

I met Mr. James Marberry through a friend of my father. Previously, I had been taking flight lessons for nearly seven years, and just recently needed a more schedule friendly instructor, and we found Mr. Marberry as the best answer. So, for the past 2½ months, Mr. Marberry has been my flight instructor. I began in Mid-December taking lessons from a laid-back, thorough man that I knew hardly anything about. As time progressed, and he told me stories of experiences he's had in his over forty years of flying, I continually became more intrigued. When I received this project from the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, I could think of only a few individuals that I was truly interested in interviewing and Mr. Marberry was one of them.

This interview is the first time that he and I had a conversation in whose subject was not about flying. He mentioned to me how he thoroughly enjoyed bringing back those old memories, and I likewise was elated to hear of his experiences. Many of the interview questions that one might ask if interviewing a combat seen veteran didn't apply here, but I can personally assure that even the men such as Mr. (Private) Marberry who never saw combat will forever remember their times serving our great nation. Military service is an unforgettable part of one's life and we should continue to hold the men and women of our military in the highest honor, respect, and esteem.—Brandon Maso

Mr. Ridgell M. McKinney was living prosperous. He had an amazing wife, owned and lived on his own chicken farm and had a great job managing McKinney's downtown general store. He had all he wanted or needed. Then World War II came about, and in 1942 Mr. McKinney gave up his more than satisfactory life to go fight for our country. Mr. McKinney voluntarily joined the United States Air Force as a private and fought for three honorable years on a B-24 Liberator. Mr. McKinney trained all over the United States to be part of the ten man crew that

flew the largest war aircraft of that time. During those three years Mr. McKinney and his squadron successfully completed over 50 bombing missions. This was a major help in the winning of World War II, but if you ask me his real accomplishment was joining the armed forces in time of war and coming home alive against all the odds.

Interviewing Mr. McKinney has flipped my view on things inside and out. He is a remarkable man with many life lessons to teach. I have learned several. For example, he had no selfishness. Even though life was going great for him, he looked at it as his patriotic duty to leave all of it behind and go fight for his country. Because of this, I now have even more respect and admiration for all of those men and women who have served in the past or are currently in the service.

"And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy—Corbin Dowell Ringley

My name is James Garrett Tollette and I interviewed Captain Ralph Peter "Pete" Langenfeld on January 26, 2008. Pete enlisted with the Air Force in the summer of 1942 and saw active duty in January 1943 as a 2d lieutenant. Pete was assigned to the 785th Bombardment Squadron of the 466th Bombardment Group of the 8th Air Division stationed in England as a bombardier for a B-24 Liberator. His last day of service was on December 19, 1945. For two years, Pete also flew B-29 Bombers during the Korean War. He held the rank of Captain when he was discharged on April 14, 1951.

On August 24, 2006 he received the Distinguished Flying Cross with valor for his heroism on January 2, 1945. On his 31st combat mission over Remagen, Germany, one of the live 2,000-pound bombs on his B-24 Liberator did not release. Pete removed his parachute and oxygen mask so he could move to the open bomb bay and manually release the weapon. Interviewing Captain Langenfeld has been an incredible experience. To listen to the thrill and patriotism in his voice is contagious. It makes one realize how important history is and we do not want to lose these experiences.—Garrett Tollette

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

MR. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this body with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is April 2, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand—just today. That is more than the number of innocent American lives that were lost on September 11th, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,854 days since the travesty called Roe v. Wade was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of our own children.

Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over their vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common.

They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. Each one of

them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says: "No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion Declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet Madam Speaker, another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection that we should have given them.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard this sunset memorial tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies, that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express, and that 12,854 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that the America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust, is still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their babies than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of the innocent unborn. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is April 2, 2008—12,854 days since Roe v. Wade first stained the foundation of this nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

BROOKE KING

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

MR. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brooke King who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brooke King is a student at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brooke King is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Brooke King for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MYKEILA MAST FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

MR. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Mykeila Mast showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Mykeila Mast was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Mykeila Mast always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Mykeila Mast on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING TAYLOR HALL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

MR. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Taylor Hall, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Taylor has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Taylor has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Taylor Hall for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CLAUDE G. PERKINS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Claude G. Perkins for his long and distinguished career in teaching, program development, and educational leadership, and commend him on having a school named after him within the Clark County School District in his honor.

Claude is a graduate of Mississippi Valley State University, where he received his bachelor of arts in political science. He also earned a master's degree in teaching economics from the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University and his Ph.D. in instructional supervision from the Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. In 1978, Claude was appointed to be the superintendent of the Clark County School District, where he served as the first African-American superintendent for 12 years.

During his time as superintendent, there was an increase in students' performance results with standardized testing; an increase in the percentage of women hired as administrators and department heads, and expansion of various vocational programs within the school district.

After his time spent as superintendent, Claude became a tenured professor at Clarion University of Pennsylvania and the founding director of the Center for Educational Leadership at Clarion University. Following his time at Clarion, Dr. Perkins came to Albany State University as a professor and dean of the College of Education in 1997. Three years later he was promoted to associate vice president for academic affairs, and dean of the Graduate School. During his time spent as the dean of the Graduate School, graduate enrollment reached its highest level, new graduate faculty criteria were implemented, and most graduate programs were nationally accredited. Faculty scholarships and research interest were supported, more on-line classes were developed, and the post-tenure review process became well established at the university. He also established five international partnership agreements to promote expanded international opportunity for students and faculty members.

Claude has been the recipient of many awards, including the Medal of Merit Award from the Ohio University in 1982, the City of Richmond, Virginia Resolution in Recognition of Educational Leadership in 1997, the James Herbert White Preeminence Award for Education and Academics in 2002, and the Nevada State Senate Resolution of Educational Achievement in 2005. He presently serves as a professor of educational leadership, chair of the College Education Committee on graduate education and is the team leader for the African Educational Research Network, USA.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the accomplishments of Claude G. Perkins as an

experienced educator. I would also like to congratulate him on having an elementary school named in his honor by the Clark County School District.

HONORING BYRON JANIS: MUSICIAN, DIPLOMAT, AND INSPIRATION

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Byron Janis, internationally recognized as one of the world's greatest pianists. The story of his life is one of immense talent, dedication and perseverance which has captivated audiences and inspired others across America and around the world.

Byron Janis was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, in 1928. At the age of 15, Mr. Janis made his orchestral debut, and by age 20, had made his Carnegie Hall debut in front of a sold-out audience. Later, Mr. Janis was selected to be the first American performer to participate in a cultural exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union in 1960. On November 2, 1960, the New York Times wrote, "If music could replace international politics, Byron Janis could consider himself an ambassador". So successful was Mr. Janis' performance that the Soviet government invited him back just two years later for a six-week tour of the country. Since that time, Mr. Janis has performed for American Presidents and received acclaim around the world. Mr. Janis has been honored both in America and abroad with such distinctions as the Distinguished Pennsylvania Artists Award, the Gold Medal from the French Society for the Encouragement of Progress, and the Harriet Cohen International Music Award. He has also appeared on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, Good Morning America, 20/20 with Barbara Walters, and CNN.

Perhaps Mr. Janis' greatest contribution to America lies not in his graceful work at the piano, but rather the tremendous perseverance and unbreakable spirit he has shown in the face of significant adversity. In 1973, he was diagnosed with arthritis in both his hands and wrists, an affliction which seriously threatened his ability to continue practicing the craft he loved. Reflecting his will and determination to rise above the obstacle which was placed in his path, Mr. Janis once said, "I have arthritis—it doesn't have me." For 12 years, Mr. Janis continued performing, often in great pain, while keeping his condition a closely held secret.

While announcing his affliction at the White House in 1985, Mr. Janis also declared he was assuming the role of Ambassador for the Arts for the Arthritis foundation. Through his music, he has raised a significant amount of money for the Foundation's work and research. More importantly, however, his story of determination is one which serves as an inspiration and makes Mr. Janis a role model for Americans with disabilities. In spite of his condition, to this day, Mr. Janis is still performing before admiring audiences. Mr. Janis is living proof that the American spirit can and will prevail in the face of challenges large and small.

2008 marks Mr. Janis' 80 birthday as well as the 60th anniversary of his first perform-

ance at Carnegie Hall. Each year, Congress honors individuals who have distinguished themselves with acts of courage and determination which capture the essence of the American spirit and serve as an inspiration to those around them. The life and accomplishments of Byron

Janis—as a musician, ambassador, and role model—embody the best in American culture and values. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Janis on the occasion of these two noteworthy anniversaries.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN DANIEL O'CONNELL AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS LEAGUE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am here to congratulate the Board of Trustees of The Senior Citizens League (TSLC) that works to educate the public about issues important to older Americans. The Senior Citizens League represents over 1 million members nationwide and over 2,500 in my congressional district.

Five retired enlisted association men work tirelessly as non-paid volunteers to help the plight of our most elderly and low income seniors: The Senior Citizens League Chairman Daniel O'Connell, Vice Chairman Nash Mines, Treasurer Marvin Stout, Secretary Thomas O'Connell, and PAC Treasurer Larry Hyland.

Chairman Daniel O'Connell spent a distinguished 29-year career in the U.S. Air Force including service as the Training NCO for the Queens College ROTC Program. Subsequently he served in protocol at the Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs where he retired as Director of Protocol, an attribute that has come in handy when the chairman meets with dignitaries on Capitol Hill.

Vice Chairman Mines had a 23-year military career concluded by service as the Training NCO for Oklahoma State University's ROTC Program. Later, he worked as general services manager for a Colorado brokerage firm and for a Denver-based retirement investment company. His military experience as a senior master sergeant gave him the calm reasoned approach to problem-solving on the TSLC Board.

Treasurer Marvin Stout had a 26-year military career that concluded with medals for meritorious service. He has also worked as an owner of an income tax consultant firm bringing his expertise to use for the TSLC Board finances.

Secretary Thomas O'Connell served in the U.S. Army including service as Division Logistics NCO. And his experiences as a former high school teacher and librarian have facilitated his work as TSLC Secretary.

TSLC PAC Treasurer Larry Hyland retired from the U.S. Air Force as a senior master sergeant before launching a small business. He also re-entered the civil service overseas before returning to the states.

The organization's objectives are to encourage Congress to protect earned benefits of seniors (i.e., Social Security and Medicare), and to cosponsor bills that secure these promises to seniors and improve the quality of life for older Americans.

The TSCL Board of Trustee members visit Washington every quarter to personally meet with members of the U.S. House and Senate to consult with them about senior's issues including the Social Security Notch and cost-of-living adjustment, Medicare, drug importation, Alzheimer's research, and the Lock Box of Social Security Trust Funds.

The Senior Citizens League is a non-profit organization headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, that strives to educate millions of seniors via direct mail, e-alerts, senior faxes, and publications including a monthly newsletter *The Advisor*. On a day-to-day basis, TSCL operations are run by Executive Director Shannon Benton, with legislative activities guided by TSCL Legislative Consultants David and Betty Funderburk and Legislative Director Jamie McMillen.

Under the recent leadership of Chairman Dan O'Connell and Vice Chairman Nash Mines, TSCL has made significant progress in representing its seniors. The TSCL legislative team (with the Board of Trustee members on a quarterly basis) has met with over two-thirds of the Members of Congress and their chief staff members during the past 3½ years.

In the 110th Congress, a new Notch Resolution was introduced in the Senate by Sen. NORM COLEMAN with Sen. RICHARD BURR as an original cosponsor. This was the first such Notch resolution in almost 5 years.

Notably more Members of the House have cosponsored Representative Ralph Hall's (Social Security) Notch Fairness Act, H.R. 368, than ever before, setting a new record. It is a tribute to the continuing dedication of all of the TSCL Board members and to the leadership of its Chairman Dan O'Connell. The fact that more than 117 Members of Congress have already in this session of Congress cosponsored H.R. 368 proves the legitimacy and premise of the organization's fight for Notch victims. It reflects the fact that Chairman O'Connell has been dedicated and persistent in his desire to see TSCL have legislative success on the issues important to seniors.

In addition to support for the Social Security Trust Funds Lock Box and opposition to Social Security funds going to those who worked in the U.S. as "illegals" (via the U.S.-Mexico Totalization Agreement), TSCL has pledged to help promote Alzheimer's research.

It is a pleasure for me to pay tribute to the leadership of the Senior Citizens League, in particular its Chairman Daniel O'Connell, whose vision and determination to help the most worthy and needy of our citizens, are commendable.

I also thank each of these board members for their military service to our country. May God richly bless them for their continued contributions to seniors, to their communities and to our great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MOINA SHAIQ, THE
2008 WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Moína Shaiq, the 2008 Woman of Achievement award recipient designated by

California's Tenth Senate District. Moína is an exemplary community leader in the 13th Congressional District. She will receive her award on Saturday, April 5, 2008, from California State Senator Ellen Corbett.

Moína and her husband, Mohammed, have been residents of Fremont, CA, for the past 25 years and are the parents of four children. She has bachelor degrees in economics and psychology. Moína was a small business owner from 1991 to 1997. After the birth of her daughter, Samah, she chose to stay home and become more involved in community affairs. She has since been involved in a major way and has contributed tireless hours, making a positive difference in her community.

Numerous organizations continue to benefit from Moína's commitment, expertise and talents. She is a co-founder of the Muslim Support Network, established to improve the health and well-being of elders in the Muslim communities of Union City, Newark, and Fremont; serves as chair of the Fremont City Human Relations Commission; is a member of the Washington Hospital Foundation; and was a founder of the Muslim Spiritual Care Program for Kaiser Permanente.

Moína serves on the board of the Tri City Elder Coalition, coordinates the Community Ambassadors Program for Seniors and volunteers her service to the Palo Alto Medical Foundation's Citizens Advisory Committee, the Tri-City Interfaith Council, the Fremont Alliance for a Hate Free Community and the American Cancer Society.

I join the family, friends and admirers of Moína Shaiq who will gather on April 5 to commend her for her tireless volunteer efforts. The honor she will receive as the 2008 Woman of Achievement award is well deserved. She continues to set the standard for community service and is a model to follow.

TRIBUTE TO 127 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN
AIR FORCE VETERANS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize 127 Royal Australian Air Force veterans who on April 4 will be awarded the United States Air Force's Air Medal by the U.S. Embassy in Australia for their service during the Vietnam war.

These men bravely contributed to the tactical air mission of the United States Air Force in Southeast Asia between 1964 and 1972. Under dangerous conditions they displayed courage, dedication and resolve as they completed their missions.

I also wish to thank current and retired members of our military, including many who served alongside these Royal Australian Air Force veterans, for volunteering many hours to insure that they were properly recognized.

ARTHUR CONKLIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arthur Conklin

who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Arthur Conklin is a student at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Arthur Conklin is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Arthur Conklin for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
HILARY WEAVER FOR WINNING
THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Hilary Weaver showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Hilary Weaver was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Hilary Weaver always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Hilary Weaver on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING THE AUGUSTA STATE
UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and pay tribute to an exceptional athletic team in my Congressional District of Georgia.

The men's basketball Jaguars achieved what no team had ever accomplished before them at Augusta State University. For the first time in school history, the basketball team advanced to the NCAA Division II Championship Game.

The basketball team played its most successful season with 27 wins in 2007–08. The players gave fans a dazzling performance on Thursday, March 27, as they beat Alaska-Anchorage 56–50 in the semifinals of the Elite Eight. They gave it their all on Saturday, March 29, as the Jaguars battled it out with Winona State University but came up just short of winning the National Championship.

The Tenth Ranked Jaguars have proven the team is among the best in the nation. Under

the leadership of Coach Dip Metress, the Blue Crew played an incredible season that bodes well for the future of the program. Their athleticism and determination put Augusta State in the national spotlight, establishing its team as a national contender. As Augusta State University's representative in Congress, I couldn't be more proud of what these young men have accomplished.

HONORING GALE "WHITEY"
FLOCKERZIE OF BELLVILLE, OHIO

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep respect to honor the life and service of Mr. Gale "Whitey" Flockerzie of Bellville, Ohio.

Like many in his generation, Whitey thinks of himself as an ordinary guy. He served the nation with honor in the United States Army. He was wounded in combat in Vietnam, fighting as a member of Battery A of the 6th Battalion, 29th Field Artillery, 4th Infantry Division.

Whitey was honorably discharged as a Specialist Fourth Class and returned stateside. In 1973, he opened Whitey's Barbershop on a quiet street in the quiet town of Bellville. Things haven't been the same since!

Over time, customers became friends, and friends have become what is known throughout the area as the "Barbershop Crew." More than a quarter-million haircuts later, the crew still gathers every Saturday morning at Whitey's for a town hall meeting to share opinions on the issues of the day. More importantly, they wait to hear Whitey's verdict—which, of course, is final.

Madam Speaker, I submit to you that if Congress followed some of the common sense and Midwestern logic employed by Whitey and the Barbershop Crew, the country would be in far better shape.

Is Whitey Flockerzie an ordinary guy? I would say he is extraordinary. The only thing ordinary about Whitey is that he represents a profound yet humble greatness about America that has helped us become the greatest nation in history: service before self, giving back to the country that gave so much to you, and living by example the sacrifice that allows each generation of Americans to reach higher than the last.

Whitey returned from Vietnam without officially receiving his Vietnam Service Ribbon. Out of respect and admiration, his friends recently obtained this ribbon for him and have graciously asked me to present it to him this weekend.

Throughout his lifetime of service, Whitey Flockerzie has affected countless lives in his part of Ohio. I am honored to recognize him on behalf of the House for all he has done.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE ALBANIA, CROATIA AND MACEDONIA INTO NATO MEMBERSHIP

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure today to introduce a bipartisan resolution expressing the strong support of the House of Representatives for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, to extend invitations for membership to Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia at this week's Heads of State and Government summit in Bucharest, Romania. Representatives MARK SOUDER, ELIOT ENGEL, EARL POMEROY, and CANDICE MILLER have joined me in this effort.

Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia have been preparing for NATO membership for more than 8 years, and are undergoing a historic process of democratic and free market transformation after emerging from decades of occupation. They have made important improvements in the areas of ethnic diversity, human rights, free market economic principles, and the promotion of good neighborly relations.

They can also play important roles in NATO activities in southeastern Europe, through their unique geostrategic position. Lasting stability and security in southeastern Europe requires the military, economic, and political integration of emerging democracies into existing European structures.

In addition, Macedonia, Albania, and Croatia have been steadfast partners in the war on terror and the war in Iraq, sending troops to serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is also important to note that Macedonia was the only former Yugoslav republic to win independence from Yugoslavia in the 1990s without bloodshed.

Madam Speaker, I proudly support the efforts of Macedonia, Croatia, and Albania to join NATO, and urge my colleagues in the House to support their efforts as well.

TRIBUTE TO HELLIER HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize some individuals in my district who are committed to maintaining ties to their community. In Pike County, the Hellier High School shut down a long time ago and many of its graduates scattered to all parts of the country. While it is true that many young people leave their hometowns, it is especially true in our region, dependent as it was on industries that rely on limited natural resources.

So it takes a special effort to remember those from high school. As young people reach that turning point where childhood is left behind and the tough choices about what career to choose, how to start a family and where to live come all at once, it is all too

easy to leave those memories behind as we become adults.

The Hellier High School "Hellcats" have developed a strong alumni network to ensure that the past is more than something found in pages of an old year book. Rather, they make this part of Pike County stronger today by meeting every Memorial Day weekend and posting photos and comments on their alumni website.

They meet every May 24 and a growing number of re-connected alumni rightfully consider this "Hellier High School Day." This year, eight more alumni were inducted into their alumni hall of fame, going back to the 1930's. They are starting an annual award for their 1941 basketball captain, Victor Ratliff, who lost his life defending our country in World War II.

We are working very hard to make our region of Kentucky one where people want to stay and raise their own families, and we are succeeding. We succeed because people remember the rich traditions and the values that guide the way during challenges that inevitably come later in life.

I am proud of the Hellier High School graduates who make the effort to embrace their past. In doing so, they remind us of what really counts in life—the people you meet along the way, fellow students, coaches, teachers, who play a critical role in making us productive citizens later on.

Every town needs people committed to making their communities better by actively participating in it. Communities are built by one high school, one church or one civic group at a time. They do not have to dry up and go away if we chose not to let them. We are fortunate to have that in Pike County, at the Hellier High School.

The people connected to Hellier High School made it more than an old school building. It is a symbol for many who wish never to forget the place they came from.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
JENA STUTZMAN FOR WINNING
THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jena Stutzman showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jena Stutzman was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jena Stutzman always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jena Stutzman on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "MORTGAGE AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE RESTORATION ACT OF 2008"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, along with Representative MELANCON, I am re-introducing "The Mortgage and Rental Assistance Restoration Act of 2008."

My bill would reauthorize the Mortgage and Rental Assistance Act, MRA, which was discontinued by the Disaster Mitigation Act, effective May 2002. The MRA provides mortgage or rental payments to people who suffer a loss of income due to a federally declared disaster such as a hurricane or terrorist attack. Without a job, most people would be unable to keep their homes due to the financial burdens of mortgages or rents. The MRA provides cover for both homeowners and renters.

After the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001, individuals who required temporary housing assistance relied upon the MRA, included in the Stafford Act, for aid. Under the MRA program, many were eligible for grants to repair homes to a habitable condition, or to obtain mortgage or rental payment assistance to prevent foreclosures or evictions.

The MRA program was a crucial component to help victims of the September 11 attack in my home State of New York. However, in 2005, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the MRA was not available for mortgage or rental assistance. As a result many people who would have been eligible for mortgage or rental assistance were unable to receive it. This was unfair and detrimental to the recovery process.

The United States Government has a responsibility to help communities recover from unpredictable disasters and help citizens keep from losing their homes. The MRA program helps provide stability during unstable times, and that is why it must be reauthorized.

THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF RID (REMOVE INTOXICATED DRIVERS)

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I wish to express my congratulations to RID (Remove Intoxicated Drivers) on its 30th anniversary. RID was the first organization to be effective in lowering DWI deaths in New York State.

RID is the oldest anti-DWI national organization in the U.S. It was formed in 1978 in Schenectady, New York, by Doris Aiken, the current president. RID began its battle against drunk driving after the deaths of Karen and Timothy Morris, 17 and 19, the only Morris children, caused by an intoxicated 22 year old on December 4, 1977.

RID's mission, then and now, is to deter impaired driving and teen binge drinking. RID educates the public about the impact of abusive alcohol use on life and health with materials, public awareness campaigns, and intense media interactions.

RID has chapters and/or coordinators in 41 States. RID relies heavily on volunteers. RID has never accepted funding from the alcohol industry or other special interests that do not support its goals. They have no paid workers in the field and do not hire professional fundraisers; 90 percent of all funds are spent on programs and 10 percent on administration and fundraising.

Madam Speaker, I ask all Members of the House to recognize and applaud the work of Doris Aiken and volunteers of RID. Their dedication and determination to end drunken driving and alcohol abuse is an excellent example of the power in each and every one of us to effect change in our communities and the Nation. May they continue to provide service and compassion for many years to come.

REMEMBERING THE TRAGEDY OF HALABJA 20 YEARS LATER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker and colleagues, 20 years ago, on March 16, 1988, Saddam Hussein launched the largest chemical weapons attack ever used against civilians in the Kurdish town of Halabja. The deadly cocktail killed an estimated 5,000 residents. Saddam's regime held the gruesome distinction of being the first in history to attack its own population with poison gas.

The brutal attack on Halabja was part of a larger campaign, Anfal, which means "the Spoils," to annihilate the Kurds of Iraq. It has been estimated that between 50,000 and 200,000 Kurds were killed during Anfal. Many died in mass executions; thousands more were simply "disappeared" by the regime.

Halabja symbolizes the suffering of the Kurdish people. The plight of Halabja's survivors continues today because of a lack of remediation. Little or no decontamination has been done and the health consequences of exposure to chemicals including mustard gas, sarin, tabun and VX continue to bring death and destruction to Halabja and surrounding villages. Children are born with deformities and cancers, and other diseases caused by genetic mutations are occurring at much higher rates than in other areas.

The world has historically failed to recognize what happened at Halabja. As we reflect on the tragedy of Halabja, it is important to look to the future, and we must honor Halabja's victims and stand in solidarity with those who survive.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMEMORATED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE NATION DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, MAY 5 THROUGH 11, 2008

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the week of May 5 through May 11, 2008, marks the 24th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week, PSRW. PSRW is a week set aside to commemorate the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice made by our Nation's Federal, State and local government employees. I am proud to once again introduce this resolution honoring public service and public servants.

Public Service Recognition Week offers an opportunity for all Americans to both recognize and learn about the significant contributions public sector employees make on a daily basis to our local communities, States, and country. Whether fighting crime, educating future generations, or serving on the front line to protect our Nation, public servants touch every aspect of our lives.

While Public Service Week lasts only 7 days, I believe that the contributions and sacrifices of public servants ought to be recognized and appreciated throughout the entire year. By honoring public servants we show younger generations the importance of public service and inspire them to consider entering the field, whether on the Federal, State, or local level of government.

We, as a nation, have a responsibility to honor the commitment of government employees and to recognize that our country runs on their diligence and hard work. The commemoration of Public Service Recognition Week stands as a reminder to every citizen that the sacrifices and contributions made by American public employees is what makes our country a more perfect union and our Government one that is truly of the people, for the people and by the people.

CESAR CHAVEZ'S BIRTHDAY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, this Monday, March 31, 2008, marked the 81st birthday of the late Cesar Chavez, a national hero who devoted his life to fighting for civil rights for all Americans. Today, I join the millions of Americans who will honor this migrant farmworker, labor organizer, and champion of social justice for his many contributions.

Cesar Chavez was a civil rights and human rights leader who learned about the importance of justice early in his life. After graduating from the eighth grade, a young Cesar Chavez went to work in the fields as a migrant farmworker to support his family. In 1962,

Chavez and Dolores Huerta founded the National Farm Workers Association, later to become the United Farm Workers, UFW. Chavez had the foresight to train his union workers and then to send many of them into the cities where they were to use the boycott and picket as their weapon. The UFW would soon become a significant political force, demonstrating that Mexican Americans could and would participate in electoral politics.

Chavez was able to successfully organize farmworkers because of his tireless leadership and nonviolent tactics that helped pass laws which would permit farmworkers to organize into unions and allow collective bargaining agreements. He also helped make people aware of the struggles of farmworkers for fair wages and safer working conditions. His movement was the beginning of La Causa, "The Cause," a cause that was supported by organized labor, religious groups, minorities, and students.

Cesar Chavez, the founder and president of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL—CIO, died peacefully in his sleep on April 23, 1993. On August 8, 1994, Cesar Chavez was posthumously awarded the Medal of Freedom, our country's highest civilian honor, by President Clinton. Since his passing, ten States across the country have paid tribute to his memory by celebrating a statewide holiday name in his honor, including my home State of Texas.

Cesar Chavez left our world better than he found it. He taught us to face and overcome adversity with the rallying cry of "Si Se Puede!", or "Yes We Can!". His legacy inspires not just the more than 45 million Latinos in this country but every person who believes in nonviolence as a means to achieve social change. He truly was, in the words of Senator Robert Kennedy, "one of the heroic figures of our time."

ON THE BIRTH OF SARAH ELIZABETH BURT

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my cousin Elizabeth Hatchell Burt and her husband Travis Ryan Burt of Columbia, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby girl. Sarah Elizabeth Burt was born on March 31, 2008, weighing 8 pounds and 3 ounces. She has been born into a loving home where she will be raised by parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future.

I am so excited for this new addition to our family. I want to congratulate Sarah's grandparents James Clarence Hatchell, Jr., and Dale Wilson Hatchell of Lexington, SC, and George W. Burt and Ramona L. Burt of Williston, SC. Additionally, I wish to send our best wishes to Sarah's great grandparents Richard Bryan Wilson and Mary Dale Lott Wilson of West Columbia and James C. Hatchell, Sr., of Columbia, as well as Frances Burt of Alabama. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish Elizabeth, Travis, and Sarah all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, on March 31, 2008, I was unavoidably detained. I would like the record to reflect that had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 147, To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 148, To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, I would have voted "yea"; and on rollcall No. 149, Supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, I would have voted "yea."

AMBER WESTERFIELD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Amber Westerfield who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Amber Westerfield is a student at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Amber Westerfield is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Amber Westerfield for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING GABRIELLE FOWLER FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Gabrielle Fowler showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Gabrielle Fowler was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Gabrielle Fowler always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Gabrielle Fowler

on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING MS. HALLEY PAGE UPON RECEIVING THE 2008 GEORGIA ELEMENTARY SCIENCE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD BY THE GEORGIA SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great enthusiasm to congratulate Ms. Halley Page for receiving the 2008 Georgia Elementary Science Teacher of the Year Award from the Georgia Science Teachers Association. Ms. Page is a science teacher at Fowler Drive Elementary School in the Clarke County School District, which is located in the heart of the congressional district, which I am proud to serve.

Throughout her 23 years as an elementary school teacher, 20 of which have been at Fowler Drive Elementary, Halley Page has been a role model and inspiration to the literally thousands of children whose lives she has touched and influenced. A graduate of Georgia Southern University, Ms. Page holds advanced degrees from the University of Georgia. Her dedication to teaching and her love for science are clear and obvious not only to the students who have had the privilege of having her as a teacher but also to the teachers whom she has befriended and mentored.

Today, Ms. Page spends many hours outside her regular schoolday working with her fellow science and Spectrum teachers throughout the district in developing and implementing a science curriculum that flows and maximizes the potential of every one of her students. Ms. Page has been instrumental in strengthening a partnership between Fowler Drive Elementary and the Richard Russell Agricultural Research Center, United States Department of Agriculture, often hosting USDA scientists who have come into the classrooms to provide our children with real hands-on experience. She also brings in multiple guests throughout the school year which not only excite the students about learning but also gives them an opportunity to learn about the outside world.

Accolades such as this one are not new to Ms. Page. She is a three-time Fowler Drive Elementary School Teacher of the Year—1994–1995, 1995–1996, and 2003–2004—and she also received the 2002 Georgia Marine Educator of the Year awarded by the Georgia Association of Marine Educators. Halley Page is indeed worthy of all of these great recognitions and the congratulations of the House of Representatives.

Also worthy of recognition are the more than 12,000 students who attend over 20 schools that make up the Clarke County School District. With over 19 native languages spoken throughout the district, many students face constant difficulty as they work to achieve their greatest potential. With the help of their teachers, parents, and the support of the community, they are overcoming the challenges and

succeeding. Just this past year, the graduates of the district's high schools received over \$2 million in academic scholarships—not including the HOPE Scholarship. They are all to be congratulated for a job well done.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the over 2,000 faculty and staff working tirelessly throughout the school district. Their hard work and devotion to the students of Clarke County are succeeding. I also acknowledge the commitment of Superintendent James Simms and School Board Members Charles Worthy, Chester Sosebee, Denise Mewborn, Vernon Payne, David Nunnally, Sr., Allison Wright, John Knight, Sidney Anne Waters, and Ovita Thornton.

All of these great individuals, most especially Ms. Halley Page, deserve our highest praise and the commendation of the House of Representatives.

HONORING DON LOPEZ'S SERVICE
TO THE SMITHSONIAN AND HIS
COUNTRY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Donald S. Lopez.

Don, described as a "walking encyclopedia" by his friends and colleagues, was hired by the Smithsonian as assistant director for aeronautics in 1972. He was part of the team, which included Apollo astronaut and then director Michael Collins, that planned the National Air and Space Museum, which opened in 1976 and would become the most visited museum in the world.

Don's love of and knowledge of flight began as a boy—seeing Charles Lindbergh parade through the streets of Brooklyn, New York; reading World War I aviation publications; and hitching rides on barnstormers. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1942. A year later, Don received his wings. During his 2 years in China, he flew 101 missions and scored five victories to become a World War II ace fighter pilot. He received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with One Oak Leaf Clusters, Soldier's Air Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Soldier's Medal, and Chinese Breast Order of Yun Hui.

After World War II, he became a test pilot and finished his education, earning a master's degree in aeronautics from the California Institute of Technology. Apollo 8 astronaut Frank Borman was one of his classmates. In the early 1960s, Don helped establish the aeronautics program at the new U.S. Air Force Academy. He retired from the Air Force in 1964 and worked as a systems engineer on the Apollo-Saturn Launch Vehicle and Skylab Orbital Workshop.

Lopez became deputy director of the National Air and Space Museum in 1983 and held various advisory positions through the late 1990s. He was most proud of the Pioneers of Flight gallery, which he filled with "such great airplanes." In his lifetime, he flew more than 32 different types of aircraft.

I am especially grateful to Don for choosing my constituents at Corporate Flight Management and Tangent Industries to rebuild and modify a Cessna 150 for an interactive display in the museum's How Things Fly gallery.

Don Lopez will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery on April 22, 2008. A memorial fund at the National Air and Space Museum has been named in his honor.

Donald S. Lopez—a war hero, test pilot, educator, and preserver, of our Nation's aeronautic achievements—was truly a renaissance man.

RECOGNIZING CORONA DEL SOL
HIGH SCHOOL'S STAND CLUB

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the STAND Club from Corona del Sol High School in my hometown, Tempe, Arizona, for its dedication to addressing the genocide in Darfur. The school club has worked tirelessly to raise over \$7,000 for the Backpack Project and the Solar Cooker Project, which provide direct aid to the people in Darfur.

STAND, a group of about 30 high school students that was started just a year and a half ago, has spent countless hours doing fundraisers and projects to support and raise awareness of the Darfur cause. Specifically, the students have organized Thankful Thoughts at Thanksgiving and a Guitar Hero competition at Corona's Bonfire, as well as numerous candy, cookie, and candle sales. I would like to congratulate the students on their efforts to raise an additional \$3,000 through its silent auction fundraiser, One Night STAND. Including guest speakers from the Lost Boys of Sudan, the upcoming event seeks to both raise money to directly assist those affected by the genocide as well as raise awareness about the ongoing tragedy.

The students should be proud of their accomplishments. I congratulate them on a job well done and ask them to keep up the good work.

HONORING MR. GEORGE NTIM, RECIPIENT OF J. WILLARD MARRIOTT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George Ntim, in recognition of receiving the J. Willard Marriott Award of Excellence. As director of guest relations and community services at the New York Marriott Marquis, Mr. Ntim is receiving this prestigious award for his dedication to excellence in service and hospitality. This is quite an honor as this award will be given to only nine individuals in the entire global operations this year.

Madam Speaker, the dedication that Mr. George Ntim shows to his profession is truly praiseworthy, and I thank him for his service to his numerous clients. I have personally had the good fortune to know Mr. Ntim, as he has assisted me various times during my stays at the Marriott. His affable personality and enthusiasm certainly does not go unnoticed, and contributes to his professional success. The hard work Mr. Ntim exhibits on a daily basis exemplifies that he is truly deserving of this honor.

IN HONOR OF MARY QUARRIER
GOURLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Quarrier Gourley, who passed away on Friday, March 14, 2008.

Mary, who was known to most people as Molly, was born in 1932 and grew up in Modesto, California. She attended Modesto Junior College and later Zweegman's School for Medical Assistants in San Francisco. In 1957, she married William H. "Bill" Gourley, who was a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. While Bill traveled the world for the United States Army, Molly was at his side. Over a 35-year span they covered every corner of the United States and Europe. Even after Bill retired, they continued to hit the road often. Among Molly's favorite places to visit were Washington DC., Germany and Turkey.

Molly loved to spend her time researching her genealogy, gardening, traveling, and entertaining her friends and family. Through genealogy, she discovered her families' extraordinary history. She had family members who took part in the American Revolution and joined the Daughters of the American Revolution. Molly had a great amount of pride in her family origins. It was that pride in her family history that she imbued in her own family and what built strong bonds among them, bonds that keep them close despite being settled in disparate places.

I always knew Molly as a vivacious, bubbly person—always full of life and laughter. But that bubbly spirit was not to be confused with frivolousness. Absolutely not. Molly was a person of depth and substance, a woman of strength. Hers was a presence always felt and will be sorely missed.

Molly is survived by her husband, William Gourley, who attained the rank of Major General in the U.S. Army and is now retired; her son Michael; and daughter Cecily, Carolyn, Mary Jane; and her nine grandchildren. She will be laid to rest at Arlington Cemetery later this month.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mary Quarrier Gourley, who was a thoughtful and loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 4

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current employment situation.

SD-106

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Iraq and progress made by the Government of Iraq in meeting benchmarks and achieving reconciliation.

SD-106

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Finland, Yousif Boutrous Ghafari, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, Frank Charles Urbancic, Jr., of Indiana, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, Nancy E. McEldowney, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, and Kurt Douglas Volker, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Trade Commission reauthorization.

SR-253

Finance

To hold hearings to examine S. 970, to impose sanctions on Iran and on other countries for assisting Iran in developing a nuclear program.

SD-215

10:15 a.m.

Judiciary

Constitution Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the adequacy of representation in capital cases.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the digital television transition, focus-

ing on consumers, broadcasters, and converter boxes.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2259 and H.R. 813, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project, to authorize the Secretary to participate in the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project, H.R. 31, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Wildomar Service Area Recycled Water Distribution Facilities and Alberhill Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility Projects, H.R. 716, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan, H.R. 786, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Los Angeles County Water Supply Augmentation Demonstration Project, H.R. 1140, to authorize the Secretary, in cooperation with the City of San Juan Capistrano, California, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system, H.R. 1503, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Avra Black Wash Reclamation and Riparian Restoration Project, H.R. 1725, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Rancho California Water District Southern Riverside County Recycled Non-Potable Distribution Facilities and Demineralization Desalination Recycled Water Treatment and Reclamation Facility Project, H.R. 1737, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities for the GREAT project to reclaim, reuse, and treat impaired waters in the area of Oxnard, California, and H.R. 2614, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Iraq after the surge.

SH-216

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 on Navy force structure requirements and programs to meet those requirements, and the future years defense program.

SR-222

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

APRIL 9

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Iraq, focusing on progress made by the Government of Iraq in meeting benchmarks and achieving reconciliation.

SH-216

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine making Veterans Affairs the workplace of choice for health care providers.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine S. 1870, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over waters of the United States.

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending legislation, and the nomination of Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Appropriations

State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of State and foreign operations.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1633, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefield and related sites of the Battle of Shepherdstown in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, as part of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park or Antietam National Battlefield, S. 1993 and H.R. 2197, bills to modify the boundary of the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park in the State of Ohio, S. 2207, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Green McAdoo School in Clinton, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 2254, to establish the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area in the State of Mississippi, S. 2329 and H.R. 2627, bills to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site, S. 2502 and H.R. 3332, bills to provide for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to the Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969, S. 2512, to establish the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area in the State of Mississippi, and H.R. 3998, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources studies of certain lands and structures to determine the appropriate means for preservation, use, and management of the resources associated with such lands and structures.

SD-366

Business meeting to consider S. 2688, to improve the protections afforded under Federal law to consumers from contaminated seafood by directing the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program, in coordination with other appropriate Federal agencies, to strengthen activities for ensuring that seafood sold or offered for sale to the public in or affecting interstate commerce is fit for human consumption, S. J. Res. 28, disapproving the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission with respect to broadcast